15 OCT 1941.

ALSACE-LORRAINE

11. 9. 41.

Metzer Zeitung am Abend. 1. 8. 41. PUBLISHES A SPEECH BY HERR BURCKEL in which he revealed the whole tragedy of the situation in Alsace-Lorraine and the strength of popular resistance. He entered into details about public opinion in the country, saying among other things: "On May 1st I expressly said that I would not satisfy myself with half-measures. Thus the way was open to everyone for marching with us. How did people answer? First, among workmen: I came to the conviction that workmen were seeking the way to us. It cannot be denied that everything is not in their favour. Therefore, it is necessary to give them time for finding the new way. Secondly among higher circles: They answered my speech of May 1st by being on purely French behaviour. Not only did they stay away from the German national community but insulted its members. These people took advantage of my good intentions to sabotage them. As a result I will be very much less considerate.

"I took the necessary measures against those guilty of political offences. These enemies compel me to make the following declaration: He who is against us belongs to the enemies of the Reich. The organs of the security of the State must handle them with severity. He who is German and loyal does not need to be 100% National Socialist. He who prefers to be our enemy must leave the country. But I announced that emigration to France was no longer possible. These people will be transported to the Reich."

Burckel explains that all young Alsatians were compelled to enter the Labour Service because Germany is building houses in Alsace. "A certain number of young Lorrainers have preferred to pass over the frontier at night and in the fog, in order to escape the labour service. This cannot go on. The parents carry the responsibility for the children, and I am quite convinced that these parents in all cases agreed with the behaviour of the young men. In spite of everything I am giving them a possibility of repairing their error. If these young people are back by the 15th August, parents will not be removed to the interior of the Reich. Otherwise, the parents in question will start their journey to the Reich on 16th August. In a frontier country reliable people have to live. Therefore, families of all young men who will not join up, will be deported into the Reich. I cannot undertake any obligation towards the man whose behaviour is hostile to Germany.